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LEWIS AND ROCA LLP
1663 Hwy 395, Suite 201
Minden NV 89423

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OCT 30 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,249,378
Issue Date: 07/24/2007
Application No. 10/700,411
Filed: 11/03/2003
Attorney Docket No. GRAPH-003COF

: DECISION GRANTING PETITION
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) AND
: REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF
: CORRECTION
:

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed October 17, 2008, seeking to add a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to a prior-filed nonprovisional application by way of a certificate of correction.

The petition is **granted**.

A review of the file record fails to disclose that a claim for the benefit of priority to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application was made within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and further failed to include a proper reference to the prior-filed application as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) and 1.78(a)(2)(iii).

The present application was filed November 3, 2003. Therefore, since this application was filed after November 29, 2000, a petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), along with submission of a Certificate of Correction, is the appropriate avenue of relief to accept a late claim for the benefit of priority to a prior-filed nonprovisional application after issuance of the application into a patent. See MPEP 1481.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- (2) the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Director may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. Since the statement appearing in the petition varies from the required language, the statement is being construed as the statement required by 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3). If this is not a correct reading of the statement appearing in the petition, petitioner should promptly notify the Office.

As the petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), the petition is granted.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the above-noted, prior-filed nonprovisional application, accompanies this decision on petition.

Petitioner is advised that the granting of this petition and the mailing of a corrected Filing Receipt should not be viewed as an indication that a determination has been made that this application is entitled to claim benefit of the prior-filed application. A determination that applicant is entitled to claim benefit of the prior-filed application will be made by the Examiner prior to the mailing of a certificate of correction.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3211.

This application is being referred to the Certificates of Correction Branch for processing the request for a certificate of correction in accordance with this decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3).

Christina Tartera Donnell

Christina Tartera Donnell
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

ATTACHMENT: Corrected Filing Receipt



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/700,411	11/03/2003	2131	685	GRAPH-003COF	15	1

CONFIRMATION NO. 5785

CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



OC000000032855449

Date Mailed: 10/29/2008

28661
LEWIS AND ROCA LLP
1663 Hwy 395, Suite 201
Minden, NV 89423

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please submit a written request for a Filing Receipt Correction. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Ralph E. Wesinger JR., San Jose, CA;
Christopher D. Coley, Morgan Hill, CA;

Power of Attorney:

Peter Smolka--15913	Ronald Grudziecki--24970
Robert Swecker--19885	Raymond Owyang--25052
Benton Duffett Jr--22030	Troy Dillahunt--25423
Platon Mandros--22124	Alan Kopecki--25813
Norman Stepno--22716	Robert Krebs--25885

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 10/210,326 08/01/2002 PAT 6,751,738
which is a CON of 09/552,476 04/18/2000 PAT 6,804,783
which is a CON of 09/299,941 04/26/1999 PAT 6,052,788
which is a CON of 08/733,361 10/17/1996 PAT 5,898,830

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 02/11/2004

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 10/700,411**

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

FIREWALL PROVIDING ENHANCED NETWORK SECURITY AND USER TRANSPARENCY

Preliminary Class

726

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER

Title 35, United States Code, Section 184

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

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The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as

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NOT GRANTED

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